



# Preservation Matters in Independence

*A Publication by the Independence Historic Preservation Division  
Community Development Department  
111 East Maple, Independence, MO 64050*

Also available at: <http://www.independencemo.org/comdev/HistoricPreservation.aspx>

**PLEASE PASS THIS ALONG TO A FRIEND OR REMEMBER TO RECYCLE** 

*Fall 2008*

## **Independence Chosen to Host the 2009 Missouri Statewide Preservation Conference**

Over 250 people from around the State are expected to attend the 2009 Annual Missouri Alliance for Historic Statewide Preservation Conference in Independence in the fall of 2009. Founded in 1976, the Missouri Alliance for Historic Preservation a.k.a Missouri Preservation is Missouri's only statewide, not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting, supporting, and coordinating historic preservation activities throughout the State.

The City was informed in late August of the selection of Independence as the next site due to its high concentration of historic buildings and museums, its heritage tourism efforts, and its long-standing City preservation program.

The conference is held each fall in a different Missouri location within cities that are designated a Certified Local Government (CLG).

Certified Local Government's must adopt a preservation ordinance to protect their historic built environment and must establish a review body for exterior alterations to historically designated properties. In the City of Independence, this task falls on the Independence Heritage Commission. The City of Independence was designated a CLG in 1987.

Conference attendees typically include preservation professionals, architects, planners, realtors, as well as preservation enthusiasts and historic home owners.

Events will include an opening reception, an address by a keynote speaker, preservation services booths, regional tours, and numerous educational sessions.

This is the first time that the City of Independence has hosted this event in over a decade.

For more information, go the Missouri Preservation web site at: <http://www.preservemo.org/index.html>. Also stay tuned to the City's web

site for more information as we draw closer to the event.



### **Spotlight on the Pioneer Spring Cabin**

The Pioneer Spring Cabin was built 1827-28 on land at 131 East Walnut. In 1835 Henry Younger and his wife, Beersheba Fristoe-Younger, bought the property. They owned it until 1847. Their seventh child, Cole Younger became a widely known outlaw, in the company of William Quantrill and the James brothers.

The cabin was relocated to its current site at 501 North Dodgion in the early 1970s. Today the cabin is open for tours conducted by volunteers from ICAN (Individualized Creative Alternative Network). For more information contact the City's Tourism Department at (816) 325-7111.



**Is there a fee required to submit a**

### **Certificate of Appropriateness Application?**

There is no fee required for an administrative (staff) review of a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) application. A \$12 fee is required for any COA review request brought before the Independence Heritage Commission. This includes most major exterior alterations to historic properties (changes in windows, doors, siding, and roofing materials, etc.). This fee helps to offset the costs associated with the required public notice printed 15 days prior to the meeting in the local newspaper, *The Examiner*.

For an electronic version of the COA application, go to: [http://www.indepmo.org/comdev/HP\\_Applications.aspx](http://www.indepmo.org/comdev/HP_Applications.aspx) or to request a hard copy call (816)325-7419.

### **Repairs Slated for Historic Truman Train Depot**

The Truman Depot located, at 1111 West

Pacific, is slated for some much needed repairs within the next few months including: replacement of broken roof tiles, replacement of rotted fascia, re-painting, and replacement of the waiting room door. Work had already begun this summer with the generous help of volunteers who cleared the landscape beds and re-painted the historic "Home of President Harry S Truman" sign. A dozen new plants were added to the beds making the site much more welcoming and accessible to visitors who often get their first impression of Independence from this Amtrak stop. A grant secured by Amtrak funded the addition of two waste receptacles (already on site) and a park bench (slated for installation outside the waiting room door).

Constructed in 1913 in the Mission Revival style, the depot is most widely known for its affiliation with President Truman. Truman arrived and departed from the depot many times before, during, and after his presidency. This depot and many others across the country became common backdrops for Truman's "whistle-stop"

presidential campaign across America in 1948, which greatly contributed to his re-election.



President Truman with daughter Margaret in 1957 by the Truman Depot sign. *Photo courtesy of the Truman Presidential Library & Museum.*

Today the depot houses the waiting area for the Independence Amtrak Station as well as the Jackson County Genealogical Society.

### **Now Accepting Applications**

Are you interested in local history and historic buildings? Do you live or work in Independence? Would you like to learn more about serving on the Independence Heritage Commission? To request an application, contact Jane Sharon, Independence City Clerk at (816)325-7015 or for more information contact the Preservation Division at (816)325-7419.